

Cape Palliser Established 1930 Closed 1932



Cape Palliser: 1930-1932 At this time there was no road access to the lighthouse and teachers had a choice of a boat ride or riding a horse from White Rock Station to get to school. The school building was a disused shed at the Lighthouse grounds

PP indicates Papers Past Website.
 Writing in Times New Roman is from items at National Archives Wellington
Writing in Italics are comments from the compiler: Robin Carlyon

This research has been undertaken by Robin Carlyon. I went to school in the late 1940s and went to Wellington Training College in 1960. For all but one year I taught in schools run in the Wellington Education Board Area. For 36 Years I was Principal of a number of schools. Thirty Five of those

years in the Wairarapa Bush area. This research project is presented with this background and experience.

Please acknowledge in any published work my research and the part played in the research by Gareth Winter and his excellent team at Wairarapa Archives

Cape Palliser

Application for 3 Families. 6 Children to open the Cape Palliser School

Father	Job	Childs Name	Age	Previous School
John James Smith	Lightkeeper	Charles Smith	14	Pouto Point Kaipara Heads
		May Smith	11	
		Lily Smith	10	
		Bessie	8	

		Smith			
George Henry Brown	Lightkeeper	Dorothy Brown	9	Correspondence	
Alfred Stanley Haycock	Farmer	Ella Haycock	7	Correspondence	

The letter below came from Mr Haycock

No Building was given by the Wellington Education Board The building used was a Marine Department (*Marine Department ran the Lighthouses of New Zealand*)building. The School was established largely for Lighthouse Children as explained in application form.

The schoolroom was 16 foot x 12 foot with a 9 foot stud. This is 3.66 meters by 2.74 meters. Height 2.74 meters. An area of 10 square meters.

Free accommodation for teacher was offered. The signatories were asked to sign a guarantee to support teacher if roll drops below 12.

The roll never got over 6)

Mail comes through Martinborough

Signed A S Haycock Matakītaki Martinborough.

Boat or Horse?

24th April 1930

Letter from Mr Haycock to Education Dept

I am going to ask Marine Department to send desks etc in by Tutānekai, which is expected in here in a few days time.

The whare we are going to use is iron and matched lined but has no fire place so would it be possible to have a kerosene heater?.

Re school teacher we would very much rather have a lady teacher.

For 2 reasons

1. All pupils with the exception of 1 are girls
2. We will be boarding the teacher and as I am occasionally away from home for a night or two my wife would much rather have a girl in the house.

If at present it is not possible to send a lady we would rather wait until one is available.

Mr Smith who has four children wished to ask if it was possible to get lesson books free in consideration of the Education Board having the school room rent free.

If it is not possible to send the teacher out by the Tutānekai she could come to Martinborough by service car and connect up with the East Coast White Rock mail which leaves Martinborough at 10.00 on Monday and Thursday.

If you would wire the day before the teacher leaves Wellington I could ring the mailman and ask him to meet the service car and that would save the teacher spending a night in Martinborough.

I would meet her at White Rock with a Horse.

29th April.

Letter from Assistant Secretary Dept of Ed

School approved. Sending a lady relieving teacher

Applications called for a permanent teacher.

The Wellington Education Board will be sending forms registers etc on the Tutanekai on the next visit.

Regarding a heater the Govt makes no grants for equipment to aided schools

Three 2nd hand desks which the Wellington Education Board has happened to have in stock will be forwarded by the Tutanekai

17th May 1930 Director approves opening of an aided school at Cape Palliser PP

16th June Mr Haycock

In view of the fact that Miss Cooke is entitled to 14 days holiday on account of service during the first term the Wellington Education Board is obliged to defer Miss Houlbrooke's appointment as permanent teacher until 15th July

24th June 1930 Miss V E: Houlbrooke, sole teacher, Cape Palliser...PP

4th September. Letter from Miss Houlbrooke to Wellington Education Board Attached is return of attendance for 2nd term. A

holiday was taken from 27th June to 15th July. To make this up in part we have carried on school this term until the 29th of August.

Only 4

26th January 1931 From Education Department to Mr Haycock

The Wellington Education Board has just received a letter from Miss Houlbrooke intimating that there is a possibility that the Cape Palliser School may not be continued. Please advise whether it is desired that another teacher be appointed in place of Miss Houlbrooke who has received another appointment

29 January 1931. Letter from Mr Haycock to Wellington Education Board

Owing to the fact that I am leaving Cape Palliser and that one child has gained his proficiency we have decided to close down the school as there will be only 4 children left. The books, desks etc will be packed and left in the Government store in charge of the Principal Keeper. Any further correspondence will you please address to principal keeper Cape Palliser Lighthouse.

3rd February Letter from Wellington Education Board to Lighthouse keeper. Offering to keep the school open for only 4 pupils and provide a teacher if free board and lodgings are available for her.

32 March 1931 Miss M. K. Scheele, sole teacher, Cape Palliser PP

4th August 1931

Enclosed a form re Board and Lodging at an aided School. This was given to all Grade O schools

- a) Within walking distance 2 miles one way
- b) To provide free board and lodging provided the teacher's salary is less than £120.
- c) If over £120 board cannot exceed 25/-
- d) All parents will share the cost of board and lodging.

(The form was sent out because of previous problems a grade "O" school)

The govt paid £13/10/0 (\$1,285.69 equivalent in December 2010) per annum for each child in average attendance

17th August Form signed by all 3 original people. Mr Haycock has returned to Cape Palliser

29th April 1932. Letter from Marjorie K Scheele

Asking for an extra day on Friday for an extension of the holiday for travelling purposes.

The mail car travels on Tuesdays and Fridays only and I wish to be in Wellington on Tuesday to attend a wedding.

Time will be made up on the 3rd June

9th May 1932.

Letter to Miss M K Scheele

123 Kelburn Parade

Wellington

Regret that they can't approve working on the King's Holiday. Time would have to be made up on another day e.g. a Saturday if no other day is available.

28th June 1932

Appointment Mr J Wisely as relieving sole teacher Wellington Education Board to lighthouse keeper.

25th July 1932

I have to inform you owing to an accident Miss A C Starkey is unable to accept the position at CP. Mr Wisely will continue.

5th August 1932

Cape Palliser Lighthouse

Private Bag

c/- White Rock Station

Martinborough

From J Mervyn Wisely (Co signed by G H Brown Principal Keeper)

Owing to the mail car being the only means of exit from here and this only on Friday and Tuesdays I find that we will not be able to depart for the holidays until Tuesday, thus making it Wednesday Afternoon until Wellington is reached.

I am seeking permission to hold school on Saturday 13th and close for vacation on Thursday afternoon

Approved by Wellington Education Board on 10th August 1910

That's It

3rd November 1932.

Letter from Miss E K Woodhead to Wellington Education Board
I wish to notify you that 3 pupils left this district on November 2nd by Government Steamer Matai

The new assistant keeper has no children.

Will you please advise me about closing the school and to what position I shall be transferred

The remaining student is a proficiency pupil and as she has no possible means of travelling to another school for proficiency on December 1st Would I be able to take her examination before I leave?

10th November 1932

To Mr G H Brown

School Correspondent

Cape Palliser

C// - White Rock Station.

Miss Woodhead has been appointed in charge of Kaitawa Gorge school as from 1st December.

Enclosed is a Correspondence School enrolment form for one child remaining.

1 st April 1909 TELEPHONE TO Cape Palliser
Good progress is being made with the work of extending the telephone line to the lighthouse at Cape Palliser. The distance from Kahutara (the nearest telephone station) to the Cape is 30 miles. The cost of the extension to Pirinoa (10 miles) is being borne by the Post and Telegraph Department, and the extension from Pirinoa to the lighthouse (20 miles) by the Marine Department. For some years the shipping community has urged that Cape Palliser lighthouse station should be placed in telephonic communication with the outer world, and it is gratifying to learn that the work of carrying the wires to that lonely post on the shore of Cook Strait is within measurable distance of completion. PP

Teachers

Miss Cooke	May 1930
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Miss Houlbrooke	July 1930
Miss M K Scheele	March 1931

Mr J Wisely	June 1932
Miss E K Woodhead	September 1932



Tutanekai. Lighthouse Tender